

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Kohtaro SABE et al.  
Filed : Herewith  
Serial No. : Continuation of Application Serial No. 09/743,290  
For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, ROBOT  
APPARATUS AND IMAGE PROCESSING  
METHOD

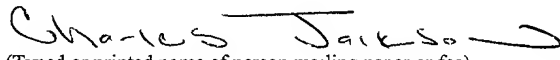
745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

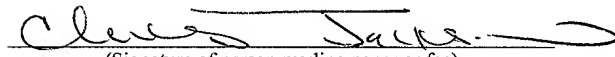
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Official Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/743,290, filed February 26, 2001, now pending.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

--1. (Amended) An image processing apparatus including plural image processing means, by which plural kinds of image processing are executed in parallel, comprising:

data transfer means, each of which produces address information for use in storing, in storage means, plural image data sequentially input from image input means, and sequentially transfers and stores the image data to and in the storage means based on the produced address information; and

informing means which informs each of the plural image processing means of the address information of the storage means in which image data to be read is stored upon request of the image data to be read by each of the plural image processing means,

wherein said image processing means reads each of the image data to be read based on the informed address information so as to process the image data.--

--3. (Amended) A robot apparatus including plural image processing means, by which plural kinds of image processing are executed in parallel, comprising:

data transfer means, each of which produces address information for use in storing, in storage means, plural image data sequentially input from image input means, and

sequentially transfers and stores the image data to and in the storage means based on the produced address information; and

informing means which informs each of the plural image processing means of the address information of the storage means in which image data to be read is stored upon request of the image data to be read by each of the plural image processing means,

wherein said image processing means reads each of the image data to be read based on the informed address information so as to process the image data.--

--5. (Amended) An image processing method in which plural image processing means execute plural kinds of image processing in parallel, comprising the steps of:

producing address information for use in storing, in storage means, plural image data sequentially input from image input means, so as to sequentially transfer and store the image data to and in the storage means based on the produced address information; and

informing each of the plural image processing means of the address information of the storage means in which image data to be read is stored upon request of the image data to be read by each of the plural image processing means,

wherein the stored image data is read based on the informed address information so as to process the image data.--

--7. (New) An image processing apparatus operated by object-oriented programming, comprising:

image input means;

plural image processing objects;

storage means accessible from said plural image processing objects;

data transfer means for producing address information used to store in said storage means a plurality of image data sequentially inputted from said image input means, and for sequentially transferring said plurality of image data to said storage means based on the produced address information;

means responsive to a request from each said image processing object to read out image data from said storage means, to provide to the requesting image processing object the address at which the image data is stored, whereby said requesting image processing object reads out the image data, based on the provided address information so as to process the read out image data.--

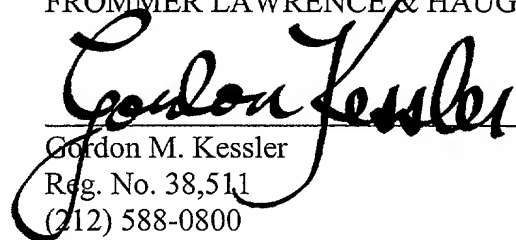
**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment makes reference to the parent application. Claims 1, 3 and 5 have been amended and new claim 7 is presented. No new matter has been added. Entry of the above amendatory matter is respectfully requested.

An early examination on the merits is solicited. Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification by the present amendment. The attached page is entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,  
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

  
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**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**

--1. (Amended) An image processing apparatus including plural image processing means, by which plural kinds of image processing are executed in parallel, comprising:

data transfer means, each of which produces address information for use in storing, in storage means, plural image data sequentially input from image input means, and sequentially transfers and stores the image data to and in the storage means based on the produced address information; and

informing means which informs each of the plural image processing means of the address information of the storage means in which image data to be read is stored upon request of the image data to be read by each of the plural image processing means,

[characterized in that] wherein said image processing means reads each of the image data to be read based on the informed address information so as to [subject it to predetermined image processing] process the image data.--

--3. (Amended) A robot apparatus including plural image processing means, by which plural kinds of image processing are executed in parallel, comprising:

data transfer means, each of which produces address information for use in storing, in storage means, plural image data sequentially input from image input means, and sequentially transfers and stores the image data to and in the storage means based on the produced address information; and

informing means which informs each of the plural image processing means of the address information of the storage means in which image data to be read is stored upon request of the image data to be read by each of the plural image processing means,

[characterized in that] wherein said image processing means reads each of the image data to be read based on the informed address information so as to [subject it to predetermined image processing] process the image data.--

--5. (Amended) An image processing method in which plural image processing means execute plural kinds of image processing in parallel, comprising the steps of:

producing address information for use in storing, in storage means, plural image data sequentially input from image input means, so as to sequentially transfer and store the image data to and in the storage means based on the produced address information; and

informing each of the plural image processing means of the address information of the storage means in which image data to be read is stored upon request of the image data to be read by each of the plural image processing means,

[characterized in that said image processing means reads each of] wherein the stored image data [to be] is read based on the informed address information so as to [subject it to predetermined image processing] process the image data.--